

United States Patent [19]

Wakeland

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[54] **BARCODE WIDTH MEASUREMENT SYSTEM**

[75] Inventor: **Charles A. Wakeland, Midlothian, Tex.**

[73] Assignee: **Recognition Equipment Incorporated, Irving, Tex.**

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[51] Int. Cl.³ **G06K 9/28**

[52] U.S. Cl. **382/62; 235/440; 235/462; 235/463; 382/67**

[58] Field of Search **340/146.3 Z, 146.3 D, 340/146.3 SY, 146.3 C; 235/440, 454, 462, 463, 470, 472, 494; 250/566, 568-570, 578; 382/9, 62, 67**

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Primary Examiner—Leo H. Boudreau
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Richards, Harris & Medlock

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A single columnar array of scanning diodes is used to make width measurements of bar codes in order to read the contents thereof. The bar code is scanned utilizing a scanning procedure which directs the columnar array along the bar code such that the photo elements on the scanning array lie along an axis parallel to a line drawn horizontally through the bar codes. The same scanning array may be used to read alphanumeric characters scanning along an axis perpendicular to the columnar array.

9 Claims, 10 Drawing Figures

